

## LISTING OF CLAIMS

Please amend the claims so that they read as follows:

Claims 1-43 (cancelled)

44. (previously presented) A method of applying a marker element to an implant intended for implantation in a human or an animal body, said implant comprising a main body and an opening provided in said main body for receiving the marker element, comprising the steps of:

introducing a hardenable material or material mix into the opening; and  
hardening the hardenable material or material mix therein to form at least a part of the marker element;

wherein both the introducing step and the hardening step are effected by galvanic deposit.

45. (currently amended) A method of applying a marker element to an implant intended for implantation in a human or an animal body, said implant comprising a main body and an opening provided in said main body for receiving the marker element, comprising the steps of:

introducing a granular solid material or material mix into the opening, and  
~~consolidating~~ sintering the granular solid material or material mix therein to form at least a part of the marker element.

46. (new) The method according to claim 45, wherein the step of sintering the solid granular material or material mix includes applying process energy locally in the region of the opening.

47. (new) The method according to claim 46, wherein at least a part of the process energy is introduced by targeted irradiation in the region of the opening.

48. (new) The method according to claim 47, wherein the targeted irradiation is laser radiation.

49. (new) The method according to claim 46, wherein at least a part of the energy is introduced by ultrasound.

50. (new) The method according to claim 45, wherein the step of sintering the solid granular material or material mix includes applying process energy electrically by producing a flow of current through the material or material mix arranged in the region of the opening.